

STARS AND STRIPES®

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Military lives linked by tragic shooting

BY HEATH DRUZIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Marine veteran, a wounded warrior caregiver and an Iraq veteran: Three lives intimately connected to the military collided tragically Saturday in a deadly shooting that left two women dead and a soldier charged with murder.

Hundreds of people gathered Tuesday for the funeral of police officer Ashley Guindon, a former Marine reservist. Friends and family of Guindon and the second victim, Crystal Hamilton, who worked with wounded Marines, described the two women as dedicated to service.

Police say both were shot to death Saturday by Hamilton's husband, Army Staff Sgt. Ronald Hamilton, in Woodbridge, Va. Two other police officers were wounded.

Guindon, 28, was working her first shift as a Prince William County police officer. She was responding to a domestic dispute at the Hamiltons' home when the gunman allegedly ambushed her and fellow officers.

Police found Crystal Hamilton, 29, shot to death and arrested Ronald Hamilton, 32, who works at the Pentagon. The Hamiltons' 11-year-old son was in the house earlier, but was unharmed.

Ronald Hamilton is charged with multiple felonies, including two counts of murder, and could face the death penalty.

'Bright, ambitious'

For Guindon, joining the Marines and law enforcement might have been influenced by her father, David.

Her grandmother, Dorothy Guindon, said in a phone in-

terview with Stars and Stripes that he had wanted to join law enforcement but injuries from a car accident had prevented him. He joined the New Hampshire Air National Guard and served in Iraq in 2004.

Several of his colleagues were killed during the deployment and, overwhelmed by his wartime experiences, he took his life the day he returned home.

"Maybe she was fulfilling her father's dream," Dorothy Guindon said.

Ashley Guindon grew up in Merrimack, N.H., a shy girl who became a cheerleader and member of ROTC in high school, her grandmother said.

"She was really bubbly and fun," she said.

After high school, Guindon joined the Marine Reserves in 2007 and attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, where she earned a degree in aeronautical science. She went on to earn a master's degree in forensic science from George Washington University.

Suicide prevention

In the reserves, she assisted the Marine Corps Mortuary Affairs Office, which brings home the remains of troops killed at war.

She also worked with a suicide prevention program, according to a biography provided by the police department.

Even in her short time as an officer, she made an impression, according to a statement from the Prince William County Police Department.

"Known as a bright, ambitious and kind-hearted 'fashionista' by those who knew her best, Ashley loved dancing, reading and traveling," the statement said. "The only thing

that rivaled her fascination of birds and nature was her love for her furry best friend, her pet pug Scout."

Crystal Hamilton, too, was deeply intertwined with military life. In addition to being married to an active-duty soldier, she worked as a recovery care coordinator at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., helping wounded Marines and sailors develop a plan to return to service or transition to civilian life.

A perfect fit

Frank Blankemeyer, the manager of the recovery care coordinator program for the Marines Wounded Warrior Regiment, said Hamilton "fit the profile perfectly" for helping wounded warriors at what is often the most difficult point of their careers.

"She was caring and loving and nurturing, and that's what you need to be in this time for these Marines and sailors," he said. "She was able to guide them down the path they needed to go."

Hamilton began her work with wounded troops manning a 24/7 call desk, answering questions ranging from how to find counseling to how to apply for benefits, said Victoria Long, a spokeswoman for the Wounded Warrior Regiment.

"She was a devoted mom and so proud of her son, and that probably is what made her such a great recovery coordinator," Long said. "Some of the Marines have family by their bedsides immediately, but some of them don't. The recovery coordinator becomes their family."

Blankemeyer said Hamilton's death has been a blow to her colleagues.

"She had that type of personality — she was very gregarious, her personality was uplifting and it's a tragedy."

What went wrong

What precipitated the killings remains murky.

Crystal Hamilton called 911 after a verbal altercation with her husband turned physical, police say.

When police arrived, Ronald Hamilton allegedly opened fire.

Hamilton, from Mount Pleasant, S.C., has served in the Army since 2002 and is an information signal corps/technology specialist, according to the Army.

He deployed to Iraq twice, once during the invasion in 2003 and again in 2005. His awards do not indicate that he was directly involved in combat, though that is not always an accurate measure.

At the time of the shooting he had been working at the Pentagon's Joint Staff Support Center since 2011.

His family could not be reached Tuesday, but Hamilton's father, Ronald Whaley Hamilton, was quoted in The Washington Post on Monday.

"We are grieving the same as all the people in Prince William County, as well as the law enforcement community across the United States," said Hamilton, a retired major with the Charleston Police Department in South Carolina.

"Ronald has always been a calm person and a very friendly person. He had a bright future with the Army and military. We express our thoughts and condolences to everyone who is affected," he said.

druzin.heath@stripes.com

Some top medals a secret since 9/11

USA Today

Nearly 20 percent of the military's most-treasured medals have been awarded for classified missions since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, according to data obtained by USA Today.

The secrecy surrounding more than 200 Service Cross and Silver Star awards reflects the reliance on special operations forces involved in classified missions to capture or kill terrorists and free hostages, according to a senior defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity because officials were not authorized to characterize the commendations.

Last month, the Pentagon announced that officials are reviewing 1,090 awards of Service Crosses and Silver Stars awarded since Sept. 11, 2001, to determine if any should be upgraded

to the nation's highest award for valor, the Medal of Honor.

Since 9/11, the 216 medals were awarded in secret for missions that cannot be publicly discussed, according to the records. One Distinguished Service Cross, the second-highest medal awarded to soldiers, and three Navy Crosses, the equivalent medal for sailors and Marines, have been issued for courageous acts during classified operations. The Navy awarded 112 Silver Stars and the Army 100 for undisclosed actions. The Air Force has not issued a Service Cross or Silver Star in secret since 9/11.

The data, current as of last week, could change slightly as medals continue to be reviewed.

That 1 in 5 of the nation's highest medals has been issued in secret is likely due to the re-

liance on special operations forces undertaking stealthy missions, said the official who was not authorized to speak publicly about the issue. Along with drone strikes, what are called "direct-action raids" conducted by special operators in secret have become a hallmark of the war on terrorism, the official said.

On Monday, President Barack Obama talked about one of those secret missions when he awarded a Navy SEAL the Medal of Honor. Senior Chief Petty Officer Edward C. Byers Jr. earned the medal for his role in rescuing an American doctor held hostage by the Taliban in 2012. Byers' surpassing heroism is the reason details of the mission were made public. Medals of Honor are not awarded in secret.

Obama underlined the reason

for secrecy in his remarks at the ceremony.

"Given the nature of Ed's service, there is a lot that we cannot say today," Obama said. "Many of the operational details of his mission remain classified. Many of his teammates cannot be mentioned. And this is as it should be. Their success demands secrecy, and that secrecy saves lives."

The rescue of Dilip Joseph also cost the life of Byers' SEAL teammate, Nicolas Checque. He was killed by a Taliban guard as he burst through the door of their stronghold. Checque was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions in the mission. Checque is among 70 Navy special operators, 55 of them SEALs, to be killed in action since the 9/11 attacks, Obama said.

Iraq pushes to retake key area near capital

BAGHDAD — Backed by paramilitary forces and aerial support, Iraqi troops on Tuesday launched a new push to retake a key area north of the capital, Baghdad, and dislodge Islamic State militants from there, officials said.

The operation came as a group of suicide bombers targeted a military headquarters in Haditha, in western Iraq, killing eight officers Tuesday. The Islamic State group later claimed responsibility for the attack in an online statement.

According to a statement by the Joint Operations Command, the "new offensive" began at dawn in an agricultural area northwest of the city of Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, with the aim of cutting Islamic State group supply lines and tightening the grip around the militant-held northern city of Mosul.

The command statement did not say if the U.S.-led international coalition was involved in the operation.

From The Associated Press

DOD wages cyberwar against Islamic State

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — U.S. commanders mounted a digital offensive against the Islamic State group in Syria for the first time in recent weeks by deploying military hackers against the extremist group's computer and cellphone networks, according to the Pentagon.

The digital assault, launched from Fort Meade, Md., marked the first major integration of U.S. Cyber Command into a major battlefield operation since

the command was established in 2009.

More importantly, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter's disclosure of a government-sanctioned computer attack represents a shift in America's war-fighting strategy and power projection. No other nation has publicly acknowledged launching a digital war.

In December, after deadly terrorist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, Calif., frustrated officials in the White

House pushed the Pentagon and intelligence agencies to crack down harder on the Islamic State group's use of the digital realm to recruit and radicalize followers, handle logistics and communicate with commanders and fighting units.

Carter said Monday at the Pentagon that the goal was to "overload their networks" and "interrupt their ability to command and control forces" with jamming and other computer tools.

After delay, VA watchdog shows wait-time reports

By HEATH DRUZIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The top watchdog for the Department of Veterans Affairs has begun releasing nearly 80 investigations into wait-time problems at medical centers across the country after coming under fire for keeping the findings

secret.

On Monday, the VA Office of Inspector General released 11 reports on Florida VA facilities, some of which were found to have had patient scheduling problems or manipulated paperwork to make wait times appear shorter than they were. The office will release 77 reports, 52 of which found some

type of irregularity to varying degrees, according to a VA statement. The investigations stem from revelations in the spring of 2014 that managers at the Phoenix VA Medical Center had manipulated wait times and veterans had languished for months and in some cases years awaiting treatment. Some died before receiving care.

MLB reminds players of ban on chew

Associated Press

Red Sox pitcher Clay Buchholz spit some chew into a bottle at his locker, then dipped into the latest notice from baseball.

Big leaguers are now getting a written reminder that smokeless tobacco is banned at stadiums in Boston, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

One-page letters are being put in clubhouse stalls throughout spring training, where there is no prohibition. The notes come jointly from Major League Baseball and the players' union.

So, will Buchholz quit?

"That'll probably happen," he said. "If you get reprimanded for something, there comes a time where you're tired of paying fines for something you don't have to do or doesn't make you any better."

"You've got to obey the rules or there's consequences to it. We'll probably learn more about that when we get up North," he said at camp in Fort Myers, Fla.

Washington Nationals manager Dusty Baker was a big dipper for a long time. He's cut back over the years, but still might pop in a pinch when games get tight.

"It's a bad influence for the kids. Big time. I'll say that. But also they're adults,

too, at the same time," Baker said.

"We'll see," he said. "My daughter used to put water in my can and put it back in my truck. Or my son, he has lip check — 'Get it out, Dad!'"

Local laws will prohibit the use of all tobacco products at Fenway Park, Dodger Stadium and AT&T Park this year, meaning players, team personnel, umpires and fans. The letter advises the same ban will take effect at every California ballpark in December.

"I support it," new Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "I think that the intentions are there, and there's obviously going to be some resistance with players."

"Like it or not, players are role models, and we have a platform as coaches and players. So if that's the law, then we definitely support it," he said.

Similar legislation has been proposed in New York City, and the Mets and Yankees say they back such a ban at their parks.

"Preventing children from being exposed to smokeless tobacco is an important initiative and we are glad to play our part," the Mets said in a statement.

"Major League Baseball has long supported a ban of smokeless tobacco at the major league level and the New York Yankees fully support the proposed local

law," they said.

The letter being distributed to players on 40-man rosters and teams this spring says: "Please note that these are city ordinances and not rules established by Major League Baseball. However, the commissioner's office will be monitoring players and club personnel for compliance with the regulations."

Smokeless tobacco isn't permitted throughout the minor leagues. There is no ban on dipping in the majors, and the issue is certain to be discussed in upcoming labor talks between MLB and the union on the contract that expires Dec. 1.

Going back more than a century, even before Bull Durham tobacco signs were plastered all over outfield walls, baseball was filled with pictures of players with a chaw in their cheek.

Buchholz did take a break, for a while. "I stopped in the offseason and baseball, it goes along with the territory for me," he said. "It's not a good habit."

Over the years, in collective bargaining, MLB and the union have tried to lower that profile.

Players, managers and coaches now can't stick tobacco tins, cans or pouches in their pockets when they're on the field or in plain sight of fans. No wads stuck in the mouth during TV interviews, either.

In their letter, MLB and the union said it would provide "nicotine replacement therapy products to those players who wish to use them as substitutes. A shipment of various products including lozenges, gum, and patches will be sent to each club free of charge in spring training, and throughout the 2016 season."

The letter included a reminder that Dr. Michael Steinberg, director of the Rutgers University tobacco dependence program, had previously been hired as a consultant to help players develop a treatment plan, if they wanted.

Toronto Blue Jays manager John Gibbons applauded the effort to cut down on chaw. He quit a couple years ago after Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn — a career-long dipper — died at 54 of salivary gland cancer.

"I was a tobacco user for a lot of years. I'm not proud of that. I finally was able to quit. It's a dirty, filthy habit," he said.

"I wouldn't want my kids doing it. You hope in some way, they can eliminate it and wipe it out. I'm sure there will be some fights over that, especially in this election year. I'm sure that'll be brought up. But, hey, if you can get rid of it, I'm all for that," he said.

Several big names stay put as NHL trade deadline passes

Associated Press

Loui Eriksson is still with Boston. Dan Hamhuis is still a Canuck. And Jonathan Drouin is still on the roster of the Tampa Bay Lightning after the NHL's trade deadline came and went Monday.

The league said there were 19 trades involving 37 players completed on Monday. That's lower than last year's numbers of 24 trades and 43 players, but it marked the 15th straight deadline day in which at least 30 players were dealt.

There were a few splashes made, mostly in the Western Conference by teams including Anaheim and Colorado as the afternoon deadline arrived.

Avalanche general manager Joe Sakic delivered on his intent to provide Colorado's playoff run one more push. And Dallas added defensive depth by landing nine-year veteran Kris Russell in a trade with Calgary in exchange for defenseman Jyrki Jokipakka and Brett Pollock and a conditional second-round draft pick. Russell has 174 shot blocks in just 51 games this season.

But the day was largely notable for the names who didn't move.

Selected third overall in the 2013 draft, Drouin's future with the Lightning remains uncertain after his agent went public with his client's trade demands in December.

Drouin was unhappy over being demoted to the minors and has since left the AHL Syracuse Crunch to work out on his own in Montreal.

Boston acquired play-making forward Lee Stempniak from New Jersey and veteran defenseman John Michael Liles from Carolina. But the Bruins stood pat on Eriksson, who was a candidate to be traded because his contract expires this offseason.

"If you look around the league, I don't think any team current in a playoff position traded a player of Loui's magnitude," Bruins general manager Don Sweeney said. "I think one first-rounder was exchanged. The deal had to be right."

Pittsburgh general manager Jim Rutherford said the asking prices were too high for some players he had identified, and Arizona GM Don Maloney said the uncertainty over how much the salary cap will grow this summer was a factor in preventing some teams from making trades.

Washington Capitals GM Brian MacLellan expressed disappointment he was unable to make an additional move.

"It seemed to be a little bit quieter today than I expected it to be, so there's a little frustration," MacLellan said. "But still, I'm comfortable with where we're at as a team."

The league-leading Capitals had al-

ready addressed their depth by acquiring forward Daniel Winnik from Toronto on Sunday, and adding defenseman Mike Weber from Buffalo last week. The East rival New York Rangers acquired Hurricanes captain Eric Staal in exchange for Finnish prospect Aleksis Saarela and a pair of second-round draft picks over the weekend.

In the West, Sakic completed three trades in which he added a top-line forward in Arizona's Mikkel Boedker and filled out his defensive depth in acquiring New Jersey's Eric Gelinas.

In exchange, the Avalanche traded veteran forward Alex Tanguay and two prospects, forward Connor Bleackley and defenseman Kyle Wood, who were both selected in the 2014 draft. For Gelinas, Colorado sent the Devils a third-round pick in the 2017 draft.

Anaheim made a few splashes in acquiring two-way forward Jamie McGinn from Buffalo and forward Brandon Pirri from Florida.

The defending Stanley Cup champion Chicago Blackhawks were quiet Monday, but they had already acquired Winnipeg forward Andrew Ladd in exchange for rookie forward Marko Dano and a first-round pick in this year's draft.

Broncos put tag on Miller

Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos have placed their exclusive franchise tag on Super Bowl 50 MVP Von Miller.

That guarantees the star pass rusher a salary of \$14.129 million for 2016.

However, both sides are confident they'll work out an extension before the July 15 deadline that will make Miller yet another \$100 million player.

No other team can negotiate with Miller, who led Denver's destructive defense to a 24-10 victory over Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers in the Super Bowl last month.

General manager John Elway had hoped to get a deal done with Miller's agent by Tuesday so he wouldn't have to use the franchise tag on the outside linebacker who has 60 sacks in his first five NFL seasons.

In other NFL news:

■ Tom Brady reportedly has agreed to a two-year contract extension with the New England Patriots.

The deal will significantly lessen Brady's salary cap hit for 2016, which would have been about \$15 million.

Brady, 38, has often redone his contract to help the Patriots' cap situation. The four-time Super Bowl champion has said he plans to play well into his 40s. The extension would allow him to do so in New England.



Ship's Store official new car program

Exclusive Navy at-sea offers:

www.navyauto.com or nasinfo@navyauto.com

Parker, Bucks down Rockets

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Jabari Parker reminded everyone on Monday night why he was the second overall pick in the NBA Draft two years ago.

Stutter-step drives and mid-range jumpers. A tricky layup off a baseline move. Parker even hit his first three-pointer of the season while helping the Milwaukee Bucks to a 128-121 win over the Houston Rockets.

Parker scored a career-high 36 points for the Bucks, who nearly blew a late 13-point lead after the Rockets pieced together a 9-0 run. Khris Middleton had 30 points, and Giannis Antetokounmpo recorded his second career triple-double with 18 points, 17 rebounds and 11 assists.

Milwaukee's young core stood up to the Rockets' rush. Dwight Howard had 30 points and 13 rebounds for Houston, and Trevor Ariza finished with 20 points and 11 assists.

"Even though we gave up a lot of points tonight against a team that scores a lot of points, we got stops when we had to and we built a lead," Bucks coach Jason Kidd said.

Parker and Antetokounmpo, the team's franchise forwards, led the way up front.

"The offense, for us, will come easy. We can score the ball. We all know that," Houston coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "The defensive end of the floor is where the problem is."

Parker, in particular, has been playing well of late, averaging 22.8 points since the All-Star break. He attended the weekend festivities to take part in the Rising Stars Challenge featuring the game's top young players.

Any lingering doubts about whether Parker was completely over a left knee injury that sidelined him for much of the 2014-15 season have been completely erased.

"To be out there with some of the best young guys that we have in the league, it's

[helped] him," said Middleton, who took part in the All-Star weekend three-point contest. "I think that him being selected made him realize he was doing something right, so he took it and ran with it."

Parker outshined Rockets star James Harden, who finished with 26 points, nine rebounds and six assists.

"It's frustrating. Very frustrating," Ariza said. "We have to continue to remind ourselves every day that we have to do those things."

Thunder 131, Kings 116: Russell Westbrook had 20 points, 15 rebounds and 13 assists, leading visiting Oklahoma City over Sacramento.

Kevin Durant finished with 27 points, 10 rebounds and six assists as Oklahoma City bounced back from a difficult stretch. The Thunder had dropped four of five, including a heartbreaking overtime loss to Golden State on Saturday night.

Oklahoma City shot 57 percent (47-for-82) from the field, including a 14-for-34 performance from three-point range.

Enes Kanter scored 23 points. Sacramento has lost three in a row heading into a four-game road trip. DeMarcus Cousins had 35 points and 12 rebounds, and Rajon Rondo finished with 11 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds.

Cavaliers 100, Pacers 96: LeBron James scored 33 points after sitting out a game and Tristan Thompson made two huge plays in the final minute, leading host Cleveland to the victory.

James was rested on Sunday by coach Tyronn Lue and the Cavs were lethargic in a 113-99 loss at Washington. But with James back on the floor, Cleveland played with much more energy and again looked like a team with NBA championship aspirations.

Matthew Dellavedova hit a tying three-pointer for the Cavs with 1:13 left before Thompson made it 96-94 with a layup. Thompson then blocked a shot by Indiana's George Hill with 18 seconds left.

Monta Ellis scored 28 points and Paul George had 23 for the Pacers, who lost their third straight but played much better than in a loss to Portland on Sunday.

Wizards 116, 76ers 108: John Wall scored 16 of his 37 points in the fourth quarter, helping the host Wizards rally.

Wall and Marcin Gortat combined for 14 points during a 16-0 fourth-quarter run in Washington's sixth victory in eight games since the All-Star break. Gortat finished with 18 points and a career-high 20 rebounds.

Markieff Morris added 16 points and 13 rebounds in his first double-double with Washington.

Philadelphia played without rookie center Jahlil Okafor, who was sidelined by a right shin bruise. But the 76ers had six players score in double figures, led by Ish Smith's 25 points.

The 76ers were outrebounded 53-32 in their ninth straight loss.

Grizzlies 103, Nuggets 96: Zach Randolph scored 22 points, leading Memphis to the road win.

Matt Barnes had 16 points for the Grizzlies, and Mario Chalmers finished with 15. Memphis won its fifth in a row against the Nuggets, including three meetings this season.

Kenneth Faried had 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Nuggets, who have lost five of six. Gary Harris added 15 points.

Newly signed JaKarr Sampson started in place of injured forward Danilo Gallinari, the Nuggets' leading scorer who is sidelined indefinitely after severely spraining his right ankle Friday at Dallas. Sampson finished with seven points.

Celtics 100, Jazz 95: Jae Crowder had 22 points, and the Celtics extended their home winning streak to 11.

Isaiah Thomas added 18 points and nine assists. Avery Bradley also finished with 18 points.

The Celtics went in front for good on a three-pointer by Crowder with less than a minute to play.

Kansas wallops Texas

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Enough about winning a share of the Big 12 title: Kansas wanted the crown all to itself.

The top-ranked Jayhawks grabbed it in emphatic style Monday night, romping over No. 23 Texas 86-56, an impressive exclamation point on yet another title-winning season.

"That was definitely motivation. We didn't want to come out flat and thinking the league was over. We wanted to come out and win it outright," Jayhawks guard Devonte' Graham said.

Perry Ellis scored 20 points and Kansas settled the question of its undisputed title in the opening minutes with a barrage of three-pointers, a steady diet of points from Ellis and defense that gave Texas nothing easy.

"For 20-25 minutes, that was about as well as we can play," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "We talked about we don't want to share anything."

The Jayhawks (26-4, 14-3) made 11 three-pointers, led by 24 points at halftime and sent Texas' sellout home crowd headed to the exits early. Ellis finished 9-for-11 from the field.

Frank Mason III added 14 points for Kansas.

Javan Felix scored 13 points for Texas (19-11, 10-7), which has never beaten a No. 1-ranked opponent in nine tries.

Kansas, which spent two weeks at No. 1 in early January, looked every bit the part this time. And in a season the Big 12 finally seemed like it could crown a new champion, the Jayhawks stormed through the second half of the league schedule with a nine-game winning streak to take it again.

Kansas has won nine of its last 10 against Texas, but came into this one expecting a much tougher fight than the Longhorns put up.

With four wins already this season over Top 10 opponents, Texas looked like a team ready to grab another. The Longhorns came in brimming with confidence as the league upstart under first-year coach Shaka Smart. And after its impressive win two days earlier over Oklahoma, Texas turned out its biggest — and rowdiest — crowd of the season.

No. 8 North Carolina 75, Syracuse 70: Brice Johnson had 14 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Tar Heels in their home finale.

Joel Berry II added 13 points and two key late free throws for North Carolina (24-6, 13-4 Atlantic Coast Conference), which led by as many as 13 points after halftime but had plenty of trouble putting the game away against Syracuse's zone.

UNC led by just a point near the 2-minute mark, but Isaiah Hicks and Johnson came up with big baskets to help the Tar Heels stay in control. Berry's two free throws with 6.6 seconds left made it a two-possession game, helping UNC hang on to first place in the ACC.

Michael Gbinije scored 17 points to lead the Orange (19-11, 9-8), who shot 41 percent and made 5 of 20 three-point tries.

No. 21 Iowa St. 58, Oklahoma St. 50: Abdel Nader scored 19 points and Georges Niang added 17 with 10 rebounds for the Cyclones in Niang's final home game.

Jameel McKay had six points with 10 rebounds for Iowa State (21-9, 10-7 Big 12), which clinched its fifth consecutive winning season in conference play.

Iowa State broke open a tight game with an 11-0 run to start the second half.

Datsyuk lifts Red Wings over Stars in OT

Associated Press

DALLAS — Pavel Datsyuk scored a power-play goal in overtime and the Detroit Red Wings beat the Dallas Stars 3-2 on Monday night for their third straight victory.

Datsyuk put a rebound past goalie Antti Niemi at 2:33 of overtime while Mattias Janmark was off for hooking. Detroit moved into third place in the Atlantic Division, one point ahead of Boston.

Rookie center Andreas Athanasiou scored Detroit's first two goals, and goalie Jimmy Howard won for the first time since Dec. 3.

Dallas' Vernon Fiddler put in his own rebound to tie the score with 1:31 to play in the third period. The Stars had an extra skater on after pulling Niemi. Fiddler also assisted on Colton Sceviour's second-period goal.

By earning one point for the overtime loss, the Stars tied Chicago atop the Central Division.

Howard made 39 saves, and Niemi had 30.

Datsyuk has 49 points (19 goals, 30 assists) in 41 career games against the Stars. Detroit had failed to score in its last 20 power plays over seven games.

The Red Wings have won their last seven games in Dallas dating to Oct. 14, 2010.

Athanasiou gave the Red Wings one-goal leads in the second and third pe-

riods. He had only two goals in his 17 previous NHL games.

Each team scored in the second period. Detroit's Gustav Nyquist took a shot from the slot and the puck was deflected. It rebounded into the right faceoff circle, where Athanasiou sent a wrist shot past Niemi.

Sceviour tied it 1-all at 17:32. Fiddler passed across the goal mouth, and the puck bounced off Sceviour's right shin into the net. A video replay confirmed that he did not kick the puck.

Penguins 6, Coyotes 0: Patric Hornqvist had his first career hat trick, beating goalie Louis Domingue three times as host Pittsburgh made quick work of sinking Arizona.

Chris Kunitz and Kris Letang each had a goal and an assist. Matt Cullen scored his ninth of the season and Sidney Crosby added three assists for Pittsburgh.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 30 shots for his fifth shutout of the season and the 43rd of his career.

Lightning 2, Maple Leafs 1: Tyler Johnson scored twice and Tampa Bay beat host Toronto for its seventh straight victory.

It was Johnson's first multigoal game of the season. He was questionable to play after taking Kevan Miller's clearing attempt off his forehead in a 4-1 win at Boston on Sunday.

Rangers 2, Blue Jackets 1: Derek

Stapan's short-handed goal snapped a tie with 2:48 to play, and New York beat visiting Columbus in Eric Staal's much-anticipated debut.

Mats Zuccarello also scored and Antti Raanta made 26 saves.

Stapan gave the Rangers the lead on a partial breakaway while Eric's brother, Marc Staal, was in the penalty box. Eric Staal was acquired Sunday from Carolina for prospect Aleksii Saarela and two second-round draft picks.

Flyers 5, Flames 3: Brayden Schenn had his first career hat trick, scoring all three goals in the first two periods and leading host Philadelphia past Calgary.

Claude Giroux had four assists and Wayne Simmonds scored twice for the Flyers, who have won three straight as they remain in the thick of the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Sharks 6, Canadiens 2: Joe Pavelski and Joe Thornton each had three points to key a dominant performance from their team's top line, and San Jose beat visiting Montreal for its sixth victory in the past seven meetings.

The win moved the Sharks within two points of second-place Anaheim and four points of leader Los Angeles in the Pacific Division.

Montreal fell seven points behind Pittsburgh in the race for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.